

MESSAGE FOR U.S. CITIZENS

U.S. Embassy, Manila, The Philippines

September 16, 2014

THE EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES IS TRANSMITTING THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION THROUGH THE EMBASSY WARDEN SYSTEM AS A PUBLIC SERVICE TO AMERICAN CITIZENS IN THE PHILIPPINES. PLEASE DISSEMINATE THIS MESSAGE TO ALL U.S. CITIZENS IN YOUR ORGANIZATION OR NEIGHBORHOOD.

A Message for all U.S. Citizens Living Abroad

There are fewer than 60 days until the November 4 General Election! The Federal Voting Assistance Program (FVAP), a component of the Department of Defense (DoD), works to ensure overseas citizens, Service members and their eligible family members are aware of their right to vote and have the tools and resources to successfully do so — from anywhere in the world.

Register and request your absentee ballot now to make sure you have the opportunity to vote while you reside overseas.

Use the online tool at FVAP.gov to complete the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA) to let your local election official know how to get your ballot to you.

If you haven't received your requested ballot by October 4, use the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (FWAB) as your back-up ballot! The online tool at FVAP.gov also provides the candidate choices based on your Congressional District.

If your state requires you to return paper voting forms or ballots to local election officials, you can do so free of charge at the nearest embassy or consulate. They must be in either postage paid return envelopes or in envelopes bearing sufficient domestic U.S. postage, and must also be addressed to the relevant local election officials.

To submit voting materials at the U.S. Embassy Manila, please bring your sealed forms or ballots to the Consular Gate and place them in the specially designated voting materials box between the hours of 7:30 AM and 4:30 PM. The U.S. Embassy is open Monday through Friday, except U.S. and Philippine holidays. Embassy closures are posted on our [website](#).

Help spread the word - Pass this information on to your eligible family members and other overseas voters.

**** Remember, the FPCA and FWAB are only used for absentee voting. If you live or have returned stateside, register to vote locally using your State's form.**

If you would like more information on the Federal Voting Assistance Program or need help with the absentee voting process, please contact FVAP at 1-800-438-8683 or vote@fvap.gov. Your embassy or consulate voting assistance officers can also help. More info is available at FVAP.gov, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DoDFVAP and on Twitter @FVAP.

The Embassy is located at 1201 Roxas Boulevard, Manila, Philippines and is open 0730-1600, Monday through Friday. The Embassy's main telephone number is (+632) 301-2000. U.S. citizens can dial this number and ask to be connected to the American Citizen Services (ACS) unit or with the Embassy Duty Officer (for calls outside of normal business hours). You can also contact the ACS unit through email at ACSInfoManila@state.gov or through the [Embassy Facebook page](#). Please visit [our website](#) for information on all services offered by the ACS unit.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in the Philippines enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at www.Travel.State.Gov. STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current [Travel Warnings](#), including the [Travel Warning for the Philippines](#), Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information for the Philippines](#). For additional information, refer to "[A Safe Trip Abroad](#)" on the State Department's website.

Contact the U.S. embassy or consulate for up-to-date information on travel restrictions. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#), and download our free [Smart Traveler iPhone App](#) to have travel information at your fingertips.